



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 22.47 Thursday, November 24, 2016 Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren **F R E E**



34th District Court Judge David Parrott, at right, swore in the new Van Buren Township Board of Trustees on Friday afternoon. From left are Trustee Paul White, Trustee Kevin Miller, Trustee Sherry Frazier, Trustee Reggie Miller, Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham, Treasurer Sharry Budd, Clerk Leon Wright, Supervisor Kevin McNamara, and Deputy Clerk Joanne Montgomery. A large crowd was present for the swearing-in ceremony and a reception at round tables set up with flowers across the hall. Besides township employees and representatives of the City of Belleville, were Congresswoman Debbie Dingell, Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous, 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green, WCCC Western Campus President and president of the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce Michael Dotson, president of the Belleville Area Council for the Arts Mendie Russell, family members and supporters. The event and special paper programs were by the Law Office of Barbara Rogalle Miller.

Independent photo by Rosemary K. Oztzman

Court Watching:

Judge Oakley binds over two for B&E in city of Belleville Oct. 20

By Rosemary K. Oztzman
Independent Editor

Lamar Rawsean Middlebrooks, 36, and co-defendant Deangelo Luther Vanover, 33, each were charged with breaking and entering a building with intent, possession of burglar's tools, and larceny in a building on Oct. 20 in the city of Belleville.

They waived their preliminary exams on Nov. 2 at 34th District Court before Judge Brian A. Oakley and he bound them over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Nov. 16 for an arraignment on the information.

Belleville Officer Craig Lewis is the officer in charge of the case.

Belleville Police Chief Hal Berriman said a citizen saw two men removing items from a vacant house at 133 Wabash and called police. Officer Jeff Wickham was dispatched to the scene and stopped the two defendants who were leaving the scene with a hot water tank and boiler worth over \$5,000 in their van. The two, from Dearborn Heights, had the address on a cell phone in their possession, so they knew where they were going, Chief Berriman said. They

also had cutting tools and a big wrench. Officer Trombley, who was off duty, and VBT officers assisted.

When they got to circuit court for their arraignments on the information before Circuit Court Judge David A. Groner, a plea deal was arranged. They both pled guilty to breaking and entering of a building with intent and the other two charges were dismissed.

The two were referred to probation for pre-sentencing reports. Judge Groner is due to sentence them on Dec. 13. The B&E charge could bring up to 10 years in prison.

**Dayshawnna Shani Logan
Shantika Shanese Shahid**

Co-defendants Dayshawnna Shani Logan, 22, and Shantika Shanese Shahid,

24, waived their preliminary exam before Judge Oakley on Nov. 2 on charges of false pretenses, more than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000 that allegedly occurred on Oct. 15 in Van Buren Township.

Logan is scheduled to have her arraignment on the information on Nov. 16 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice. Her attorney said she had a driving while license suspended charge in another court that same day, but Judge Oakley said the felony charge would supercede that lesser charge. Logan is free after posting her bond of \$20,000/10%. She was arraigned at circuit court and a disposition conference is set for Nov. 28 before Judge James Chylinski.

Shahid was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on \$10,000/10% bond. Shahid,

(continued on page 17)

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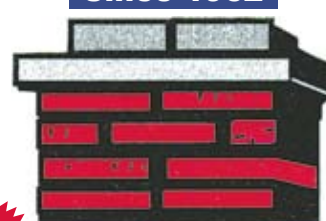
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

District Library Board takes primary steps to get the new library built

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Belleville Area District Library decided to hire a Construction Manager as Constructor and to get architect Dan Whisler to put together a Request for Proposals for the position.

This was at the regular meeting of the board on Nov. 15.

Steps were taken to immediately move toward construction after the board expressed its absolute ecstasy over seeing voters approve its two proposals on Nov. 8 giving the new library the approvals needed to go forward.

"This is a big deal," said board president Sharon Peters, referring to voting to hire a Construction Manager as Constructor over other options.

"It's a big help for our staff," said vice president Joy Cichewicz, noting the library staff won't have to be making day-to-day construction decisions.

"Our staff still is running a library," Peters said.

Whisler said he will bring as much leadership to the project as the board likes.

Whisler said it was important to get a topographic and boundary survey of the library site and surrounding parcels done as soon as possible for the city's site plan approval process and building design and planning needs.

He said his architectural firm, Daniels and Zermack, will be starting on the final drawings of the project and any changes the board likes can be put into the final plans.

The board confirmed its bond financial advisers for bond sales and bond investment/asset management, as well as the bond attorney. The library's attorney John Day will do contract reviews and land acquisition consulting.

They also will develop and finalize an Owner-Architect Agreement with Daniels and Zermack.

Whisler recommended environmental assessment studies of vacant or occupied parcels to be acquired. He said this is due diligence and part of the process.

There was a total of 15 recommendations from Whisler and the building committee will meet and consider options and decisions to send on to the full board.

Library board member John Juriga said he would like to see the general contractor get as many local contractors as possible to work on the construction, such as Davenport Brothers of Belleville.

Whisler said you get a lump sum of cost from the general contractor and don't know who all has been included. He said if local workers are a priority for the library board it would have to have written guidelines on

who is considered local.

Juriga said it would be those in the 48111 zip code.

"It has to be defined," Whisler said, adding, "Do they live there? One of their employees lives there? Within 5%, maybe, award higher bid to local contractor?"

"It has to be thought through and spelled out," Whisler said.

The board discussed getting with Sumpter Township officials to see how long Sumpter needs to occupy the DPW building that is planned to be used for the Sumpter South Satellite Media Center. Also, they need to check with the owner of the house next door to see when that could be available. Originally, it was between March and May, but it could be sooner because she has been having heating problems.

They discussed temporary parking for employees during construction. Whisler said they will get down to the real minutiae during the design phase, with changes to what was first suggested.

"And now that it's a real project that's funded, maybe DTE will talk to us about moving the overhead wires," Whisler said.

He said the library should get its construction manager by the end of the year. When asked by the board, what size project this would be considered, he said it's about \$10 million, a "medium-sized project."

Whisler said the majority of the decisions will be by the full board and the building committee might meet weekly during the life of the project and do the heavy lifting.

Joy Cichewicz said it is important to tie up the agreement with the City of Belleville, make an agreement on maintenance of the satellite with Sumpter, and to contact the owner of the building next door that is being sold to the library.

When Library Director Mary Jo Suchy asked when they could break ground, Whisler said it would be from 10 to 12 months. And, then it would take from 18 to 24 months to build, he said.

Whisler said they have to ask the city when it is reasonable to close Fourth Street so the contractor can use it for a staging area. He said they will have several meetings with the city before they get to formal submission of the preliminary site plan.

Mary Jane Dawson, chairman of the marketing committee, read a prepared statement thanking everyone who helped pass the library proposals and giving a history of the district library. She made a motion that when the ground is broken a list of board members from the beginning will take part in "digging the dirt and cutting the ribbon." Juriga seconded the motion and the board passed it unanimously.



Photo courtesy of Tim Pranger

A dozen students graduated from Police Reserve Officer Training at Schoolcraft College on Nov. 14. Of the 12, six were officers from the Belleville Police Department: Jason Bies, James Frazier, James Piper, Donald Pranger, William Quan, and James Smith, IV. Three were from Northville Township PD, two from Southgate PD, and one from Dundee PD. Belleville Reserve Officer Frazier won the Leadership Award and the Firearms Award. Belleville Officer James Piper won the Code of Ethics award. Former Van Buren Township Public Safety Director Gerald Champagne serves as the associate dean of Public Safety Education at Schoolcraft.

Planners set public hearing Jan. 25 on VBT Lakeshore Ordinance

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

A public hearing has been set for the Jan. 25 meeting of the Van Buren Township Planning Commission to seek input on the Belleville Lake Lakeshore ordinance amendments.

At its regular meeting Nov. 9, the planning commission listened to a presentation by Will Hawley, an attorney who lives in Mission Pointe, on the changes recommended to the ordinance. Hawley had vehemently opposed the previous amendments presented in two meetings last February and was signing people up to sue the township.

The township staff made a list of 77 things the residents thought was wrong with the document. A public hearing was set in March, but a big snowstorm cancelled the meeting.

At the recommendation of the township staff, the ordinance amendments were sent back to the township staff to work with the residents. They set up a group of lakeside residents, including Hawley, to help make the ordinance something they could support.

Ron Akers, director of the VBT Planning and Economic Development Department, said the work group had from 15 to 20 residents who have worked diligently with the township staff for six months.

Hawley said over the last six months the group has met at least a half dozen times for three hours or so each time.

He said the amendments now dovetail with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality requirements. He gave the example of a 4' wide dock requirement. They have taken that out of the township ordinance

and now someone wishing to have a wider dock must pay \$500 to the MDEQ and show "minimal impact." It would all be through the MDEQ.

He said a proper grandfathering clause was put in place.

Hawley said Director Akers and Deputy Director Matthew Best were a tremendous help to the committee.

Hawley said the new wording is clarified for people selling property and it should improve properties in the community.

"I think the commission should recommend it," Hawley said. "It's time to put this issue to bed. I will lobby for it."

"We spent a lot of evenings doing a lot of work," Akers said, noting that two ordinances were in the commissioners' packets: one a zoning ordinance that covered installation of structures and one a general ordinance.

"The planning commission doesn't usually review general ordinances, but we want to show how it works together," Akers said. "The use of the gapland is granting exclusive use and enjoyment of the property ... the township owns it ... but the ordinance would allow exclusive use of the property that abuts a resident's property."

He said there was a question: "Why not just sell the shoreline to the property owners?"

He said because of the dam, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission decrees you can't sell property within 75' of the lake. He said property owners will maintain safely the lake property for erosion, vegetation, and all structures.

Akers said the grandfathering provision

(continued on page 13)

O P I N I O N S

Editorial

Thanksgiving gives us opportunity to appreciate our lives

Thanksgiving Day, whether it's with our family in a cordial crowd or sitting alone in front of the television with a warmed-up frozen dinner in our laps, is a special time that leads us to contemplate our blessings.

We all can have gratitude for positive things in our personal lives, but through out the tri-community there have been lots of smiling and back slapping after voters passed lots of millages.

The library board is delighted it got the right size library in the right place that the voters would approve. They are moving forward to build the library in Belleville and outfit the satellite in Sumpter.

The Van Buren Township Public Safety Department is very pleased that voters decided they didn't have to depend on landfill royalties to fund public safety. They won't be getting anything extra, but the township board will have to spend the whole 6.5 mills on public safety. Of course the board gets the 2.5 mills it used to allocate to public safety, so we'll all be watching to see if they spend it wisely.

The Van Buren Public Schools got its non-homestead millage passed, a big relief, and also will be getting more than \$300 per pupil through the RESA millage that passed.

It's hard to believe voters passed all those millages, but they did. And, we've got some new elected and appointed officials to watch. We're thankful.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train is scheduled to come through Belleville on Wednesday, Nov. 30, following a 4:30 p.m. performance in Windsor. This is the 18th year of the CP Holiday Train that is brightly decorated. It will come down the tracks that cross Savage Road and South Street in the City of Belleville, heading toward Chicago. We have lots of train buffs who look for that train each year.

On Friday, a sign truck and two workers were in downtown Belleville removing the paintings loaned to Belleville by the Detroit Institute of Arts. We'll miss them.

I received the following email last week:

"I was on southbound Sumpter just south of Hull 6 PM Tuesday 15th 2 deer crossed west to east I missed the first one the second hit the side of my minivan but continued across. I know folks hunt in there if you know the landowners please relay there's an injured deer I believe it was a younger buck. My van wasn't damaged too bad the sliding door is dented the passenger door looks alright but creaks when opened. 2015 Going to get it fixed."

Early Friday morning, while sitting at home with my cup of coffee, I heard a report on the police scanner of a motorist's report of a deer lying in the roadway with a lot of auto parts. I don't know where this was.

On Thursday when we were out delivering papers early in the morning it was very, very foggy. I was worried about deer in Sumpter because we've seen them crossing the rural roadways many times in



the past. But we were very fortunate and didn't see a one.

Recently, I was driving to a meeting in the City of Belleville just before 7 p.m. It was dark. I was near Savage Elementary School when suddenly there was a deer next to my passenger side windshield – and then he was gone and there was not a second deer, as there sometimes is. Close call for us both.

A reader, who is a city resident, called to say that her son put her bags of leaves in the garage until pick-up day to keep them dry. He then put them in his truck, carried them to the curb, and lined them up for pick up. She said that would explain what we saw on newspaper delivery day that was reported in this column. She said it was early Thursday morning.

But, it wasn't her. She told me where she lived and that wasn't where the bags were being lined up from a pick up truck – around 4 p.m. on a Wednesday. What we saw was in front of an apartment building with no trees on the property. Still a mystery.

In her written report to the Belleville Area District Library Board on Nov. 15, Library Director Mary Jo Suchy described how she worked on finding the leaks in the roof of the present library: "Michelle and I attempted some caulking on the clerestory part of the roof. We may have solved the leak over the internet, but we are waiting

for a few more rains before we declare victory. The mystery leak over the octagon, however, remains a mystery."


Board member Mary Jane Dawson referred to the "leak over the internet" comment, asking if that was Wikileaks. Actually, Suchy meant the leak onto the computers the public uses to access the internet, but everyone got a good chuckle out of that.

But, board members voiced concern over their library director walking around on the roof. Director Suchy said they might have to redo the roof since the new library is several years away. She said keeping the inside of the library dry may cost about \$10,000.

A reader told me she heard Kroger was coming to the corner of Hull and Sumpter roads, as had been proposed in the past. She said they cut down the cornfield, there is activity on that corner, and a surveying crew is at work.

I asked VBT Director of Planning and Economic Development Ron Akers and he said the corner is zoned commercial, but not the rest of that cornfield, so they would have to come to the township for rezoning. He said there is sewer and water there, so it is possible, but there have been no requests, so far.





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"We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them."

-- Albert Einstein



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Letters

Jesse Marcotte just the right person

To the Editor,

With delight I read of the appointment of Jesse Marcotte to the Belleville City Council.

One weekend early this summer friends from various parts of Michigan as well as Arizona and Maine came to my home. One of the ladies cannot climb into a boat, so I was going to forgo showing off Belleville Lake. No rides to feel the cool breeze off the lake or to admire the beauty of the trees. No chance to see the wake boarders or skiers show their talents.

Then Jesse to the rescue. He piloted his pontoon boat up to the city dock so my friend could use her wheelchair. It did not fit through the opening so Jesse patiently waited while we got her scooter. And waited while the rest of us got organized and went back to the cars for the things we had forgotten – cameras, sunscreen ...

Then he spent as long as we wanted, speeding up when we wanted to cool off and slowing down when we needed a better look. All the time smiling and chatting with us.

He used a precious summer vacation day to show us a good time.

I wanted to show off Belleville Lake to my friends. Jesse helped me do that.

But what my friends remembered was the very kind man. Just the right person to represent Belleville.

Kathleen J. Walsh
 Jack Ridenour
 Van Buren Township

Scout Troop 231 picked up my leaves

To the Editor,

My name is George Roman. I live at 354 E. Huron River Drive. I am a Navy veteran of World War II and am 91 years old. I don't have a big tree in my back yard, but on each side there are trees. Thank goodness there is Scout Troop 231 that came and picked up all my leaves – over 20 bags. They earn my thanks again. Is there a merit badge?

George Roman
 Belleville

Editor's Note: Troop 231 meets at Trinity Episcopal Church.

"Accept the challenges so that you can feel the exhilaration of victory."
 — George S. Patton

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Giant THANK YOU to library supporters

To the Editor,

The Board, staff and entire Belleville Area District Library family expresses its gratitude to the tri-community of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Townships for supporting the new library proposals on the Nov. 8th ballot.

Actual building is still many months off, as we are busy now with the many details that could not be addressed until after the vote of the people. We will keep the community posted on the project as it develops, but for now, a giant THANK YOU to all!

Sharon C. Peters
 Belleville Area District Library Board Chair

Sumpter Fire Fighters thank all who helped

To the Editor,

Sumpter Firefighters would like to thank those that participated in Trunk or Treating at Sumpter Fire Station #1. Everyone's trunks looked awesome and volunteers gave out hot dogs with a smile.

Much appreciation to Five Star Deli and the Pumpkin Factory for donating candy bars and delicious doughnuts.

Also, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees for their support, and Sumpter Police Department for checking candy to keep our treaters safe.

Sincerely,
 Maryann Watson
 Halloween Chairperson

Join Democrats for holiday party Dec. 2

To the Editor,

This is an open invitation to our annual Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club Holiday Party on Friday, Dec. 2. Come join us for our cocktails and social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner by Deb's Catering served at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 single and \$45 per couple which includes dinner, door prize ticket, beer and wine and silent auction. The event will be held at UAW Local 898, 8975 Textile Road, west of Rawsonville Road in Ypsilanti. We will have basket raffles and 50/50 raffle prizes throughout the evening.

We would like to encourage donations of a toy or cans of food for charity even if not attending.

Tickets are available at the door or you can purchase by calling (313) 605-9727 or from any board member.

We wish you a Happy Holiday and a Blessed New Year,

Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club
 Executive Board
 (Serving the City of Belleville, the Townships of Huron, Sumpter and Van Buren)

More Letters

St. Jude's Novena answered my prayer

To the Editor,
If you say this prayer nine times a day, by the eighth day your prayer will be answered. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised when you receive what you've been asking for.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, keeper of the hopeless, pray for us.

This is a "thank you" to St. Jude for answering my novena that I made to him. God bless.
S.A.F., Resident, City of Belleville



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Obituaries



Gary E. Avery

GARY E. AVERY

(January 29, 1944 – November 18, 2016)

Gary E. Avery, age 72, Belleville area resident since 1986, passed away Friday, November 18, 2016 at Cedar Woods, Belleville. He was born January 29, 1944 in Wayne, MI, son of the late Edmund & June (Vangeeson) Avery. He graduated from Romulus High School. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Air Force. He served in the Air National Guard for over 20 years and was on their bowling league. He retired from Ford Motor Company after 30 years of loyal service at Detroit Metro Airport in Air Transportation. He was a member of the former Trinity Reformed Church. He was a member of the Belleville Moose Lodge #934 for many years and loved spending time there with friends. He was a former member of the Van Buren Eagles, Huron Valley Conservation Association, and the Romulus VFW.

Gary is survived by daughter Mary Ellen Avery of Indiana; son Ed (Tina) Avery of Sumpter Township, MI; three grandchildren Rodney, Christina, and Lance Avery; sister Doris (Harry) Smith of Georgia; two nephews Jeff & Keith Smith; brother-in-law Lee (Wilma) Bechtol of Florida; also numerous friends and extended family. He was preceded in death by his wife Barbara Ellen (Bechtol) Avery on April 24, 2006.

Visitation will be 1-8 PM Friday, November 25, 2016 with a 7:00 PM Loyal Order of the Moose Service. Visitation will also be 11 AM until 1 PM Saturday, November 26, 2016, all at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734)697-4500. Funeral service will begin at 1:00 PM Saturday. Interment will be in Michigan Memorial Park, Flat Rock, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to Gary's family and would be appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

LINDA LEE KENNEDY

Linda L. Kennedy, age 68, of Belleville, November 19, 2016. Beloved wife of Louie James Kennedy, Jr. Loving mother of Gregory (Kristy) Shenton and Terrance (Michelle) Shenton. Dearest grandmother of Alexander, Andrew and Alaina. She is also survived by her sister Shannon (Andrew) Meyer and preceded in death by her parents Ellis and Virginia Bulmer. Service was Tuesday, November 22, 7 p.m. at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home (next to Michigan Memorial Park), 30895 Huron River Dr., Huron Twp., (734) 782-2646. Visitation was 4-7 p.m. Tuesday. Interment in Michigan Memorial Park.

www.mimemorial.com



Ronald Edward Mazur

RONALD E. MAZUR

(October 18, 1934 – November 20, 2016)

Ronald Edward Mazur, age 82, of Ypsilanti, MI, formerly of Belleville and Monroe, MI, passed away Sunday, November 20, 2016 at his home. He was born October 18, 1934 in Detroit, MI, son of Edwin & Leona (Johnson) Mazur. Ron retired from Republic Tool & Die, Belleville, after many years of loyal service in Shipping & Receiving. He enjoyed playing baseball and hunting and fishing in his younger years. He was a former member of the Belleville Moose #934. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed being outdoors taking care of his lawn and yard. He collected coins and eagles.

Ron is survived by his wife of nearly 19 years, Leona Marie (Block) Mazur; two daughters Yvonne Lester of McArthur, Ohio, Judith (Darrell) Coleman of Chelsea, MI; 11 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; four sisters: Kay Woods, Donna Lieto, Diane Tuller and Jackie (Dave) DelPiombo; two brothers: Dennis (Cindy) Kozlowski and Kenny (Tammy) Mazur; also numerous nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, a daughter Wanda Arquette; three sisters: Marcia Kozlowski, Joan Troy, and Dee Marsh; also three brothers: Stanley Kozlowski, Larry (Sharon) Mazur and John Mazur.

Visitation was 3-8 PM Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734)697-4500. A Celebration of Life Service was at 7 PM Tuesday with St. Joseph Mercy Hospice Chaplain officiating.

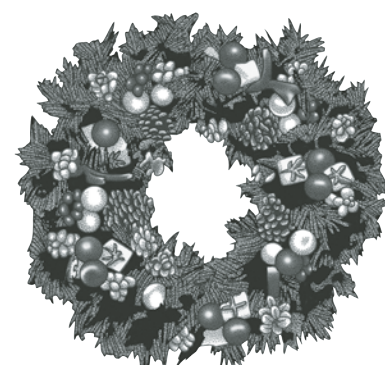
In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Joseph Mercy Homecare & Hospice, or to the family, and would be appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a memory for his family to cherish.

DOROTHY JEAN MEYERS

(October 12, 1959– November 15, 2016)

Dorothy Jean Meyers of Belleville. Born 10/12/1959 in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, daughter of Mark and Dorothy McCauley, passed away on 11/15/16. She leaves behind her loving husband of 33 years Michael J. Meyers; her two daughters Jenniffer and Anna; her 3 grandchildren, Ryley (6), Beauden (3), and Destiny (2). She was the heart of her family. She loved her family more than life itself. Her biggest thrill in life was watching her grandchildren play and grow.

No service will be held, however, there will be a Celebration of Life Dinner to honor and celebrate her life, at the Belleville Moose on the 27th of November at 7:30 p.m.



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**More Obituaries
on page 8**

Obituaries



Jason Edward Hughes

JASON E. HUGHES

(December 16, 1974 – November 19, 2016)

Jason Edward Hughes, age 42, life-long Belleville resident, passed away Saturday, November 19, 2016 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI, after complications with his heart. He was born December 16, 1974 in Ypsilanti, MI, son of James David & Cheryl Ann (Demski) Hughes.

Jason was a 1993 graduate of Belleville High School where he played football. He loved sports and coached football for BHS for many years after graduation. He studied at Eastern Michigan University. Jason was a supervisor at L & W Engineering, Belleville. His daughter was the love of his life and he enjoyed supporting her in band and gymnastics.

Jason is survived by his ten-year-old daughter Hazel Anne Hughes, her mother Melissa, his parents James & Cheryl Hughes, two brothers James (Audra) Hughes and David (Evette) Hughes, five nieces & nephews: Jimmy Hughes, Jessica Hughes, Paige Hughes, Preslie Hughes and David Wayne Hughes, all of Sumpter Township. He is also survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. He was preceded in death by his grandparents. Visitation was 6-8 PM Tuesday and 10 AM-1 PM Wednesday, November 23, 2016 with a 1 PM Funeral Service at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111-2764 (734) 697-4500.

Memorial contributions may be made to the wishes of his family and would be appreciated. Please sign his on-line guest book and share a story for his family to treasure at www.davidcbrownfh.com.

Computer classes back at the library

Computer classes are back at the Belleville Area District Library.

On Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. is "Microsoft Word: Basics and Beyond," for users who have some experience with creating documents, but would like to learn more. This is a good class for those who want to learn how to spruce up a basic resume.

"Computer Basics," for learners with little or no previous experience with computers, will be held on Dec. 7 at 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m.

"Intro to the Internet" requires some basic mouse and keyboard skills. This class takes place Dec. 12 at 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m.

Registration for classes opened on Nov. 21. Interested participants must register in person at the library and provide a \$5 cash deposit for each class they plan to attend; deposits are returned when you attend the class.

Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Wednesday, Nov. 23** – Free program 7-8 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library for high school and college students. "Overcome Exam Panic and Test Stress" will be presented by Conrad Welsing. This program is designed to help students and teachers prepare for exams by using relaxation and concentration methods. RSVP to (734) 516-5962 or to conrad@aia2.com. Also ran Nov. 16.

• **Thursday, Nov. 24** – Thanksgiving

• **Thursday, Dec. 1** – The Belleville Area District Library presents a holiday craft – Arm Knitting – at 7 p.m. In this program you'll learn how to knit a chunky cowl or scarf without knitting needles! The library will provide the yarn for this free program. Space is limited; register at the library.

• **Friday, Dec. 2** – Join the Southwestern Wayne (County) Democratic Club for its annual holiday party at 6 p.m. at the UAW Local 898, 8975 Textile Road, Ypsilanti (west of Rawsonville Rd.) \$25 single/\$45 couple. For tickets or more information, call Sharon Curson (313) 605-9727 or Debbie Chamberlain, (734) 634-3569.

• **Saturday, Dec. 3** – Belleville Winter Fest Parade starts at 6 p.m. at BHS and heads to Five Points and then up Main Street to the museum. Lighting of the Christmas tree on the museum follows the parade, as does visits with Santa. Parade sponsored by Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce. Fireworks at 8 p.m., funded by Belleville Yacht Club.

• **Sunday, Dec. 4** – Southern Echo performs from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, Dec. 4** – Advent by Candlelight at 6 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, New Boston. Kicking off the advent season with an hour-long holiday music program featuring Katie Williamson. This is a free event and everyone is welcome. Refreshments follow in the Activities Building, 19109 Craig St., New Boston, (734) 753-9048.

• **Thursday, Dec. 8** – "The Soldiers Who Didn't Make it Home For Christmas" will be presented at 7 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library as part of its ongoing Homegrown Knowledge series. Local history experts from the Bring Our Boys Home group will share stories of Civil War soldiers from the Belleville area who lost their lives in the war. Free. Refreshments.

• **Saturday, Dec. 10** – Belleville Area Museum Children's Christmas Ornament Workshops and photos with Santa, at noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m.

• **Sunday, Dec. 11** – Swift Charities and Swift Transportation of New Boston are holding their second-annual Christmas Dinner for Our Veterans at the Belleville Moose Lodge. Proceeds will help fund Pets for Vets, Southeast Michigan. Donation: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 5-10. Menu:

Turkey, ham and all the trimmings. Doors open at 12:30 p.m. Advance tickets at Moose, (734) 325-7799, or Denise at Swift, (734) 753-2323.

• **Sunday, Dec. 11** – To be announced: musical performance from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Saturday, Dec. 17** – Belleville Area Museum Children's Christmas Ornament Workshops and photos with Santa, at noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m.

• **Saturday, Dec. 17** – The Belleville Community Band's Christmas Concert is at 7:30 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street.

• **Sunday, Dec. 18** – To be announced: musical performance from 2 to 5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township. Free. Information: Mike Hoben (734) 260-1170 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.



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• **Wednesday, Feb. 22** – Free Community Dinner from 6 to 7 p.m. at Belleville First United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street. Get to know your neighbors. Everyone welcomed. Info: (734) 697-9288

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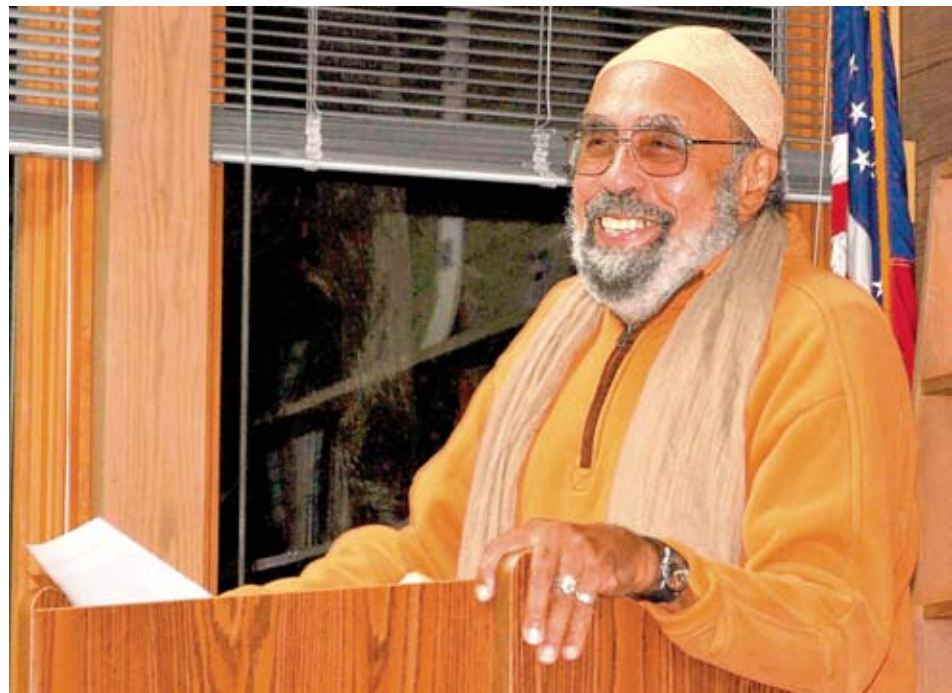
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Photos courtesy of Hilary Savage

Melvin T. Peters, PhD, read poetry at the Oct. 27 tenth anniversary celebration of the African American Literature Book Club at the Belleville Area District Library. The book club held its first meeting in October of 2006 and since then has read and discussed at least 109 books. Everyone is welcome to attend book club meetings held on the last Thursday of each month. Copies of the next book can be found at the library.



Thirty eight past, present, and future members of the book club gathered for food, fellowship, and the poetry reading.

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More Letters

Who's responsible for cleaning leaves off st.?

To the Editor:

This letter is in regards to the leaf situation that many of us are now facing.

I saw a picture in a recent *Independent* of yard bags lined up on the curb of a home on E. Huron River Drive. Lots of them.

So, now we have to buy bags, lots of them, to put the leaves in, big rakes to rake them, and muscles to get them to the curb.

I have a question: I have two Maple trees on my curb (city property, I'm told). The full length of my curb and street are covered with leaves. Do I have to clean the street? If I don't, who will? They are on the city street, along with my yard. Am I responsible for city property?

I'm a female senior resident, over 70, and I don't think I can manage my yard and the street, too. Any suggestions would be appreciated.

My biggest hope is for a good West wind to blow all these leaves in the street to the Edgemont playground.

Kathy N.
Belleville

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Neil Ross wins \$400 at Sumpter Turkey Shoot

To the Editor,

The Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Commission would like to thank everyone that came out for our Turkey Shoot. We hold the Turkey Shoot every October on the first four Sundays.

We would like to thank everyone that came out and helped to make it a success along with those that donated items. We could not do this without you.

Neil Ross, pictured, won the \$400 gift card for the closest shot to the bullseye. To win the gift card the shooters sign up and once they qualify then they shoot for the gift card. Whoever is the closest shot to the bullseye wins.

Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission



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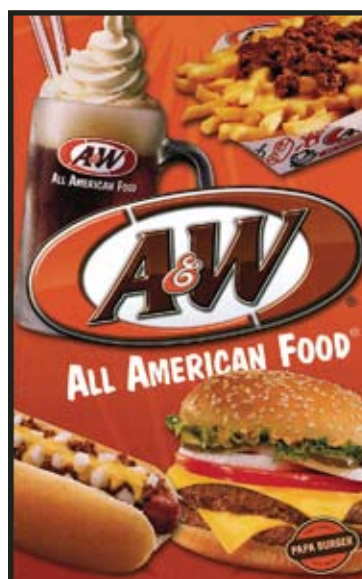
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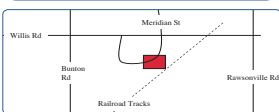
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Belleville DDA launches Downtown Shop Local events in Belleville

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

“Jingle Your Cents in Downtown Belleville” is the theme of a Shop Local promotion put together by the Belleville Downtown Development Authority and local merchants.

At the Nov. 16 meeting of the Belleville DDA, DDA Coordinator Carol Thompson said they are working together to launch this holiday promotion ahead of Shop Small on Saturday, Nov. 26, and will continue promoting Downtown Belleville Shop Local through the holiday season.

Thompson said each participating downtown business will set its own store’s promotion: a giveaway or discount or other holiday special.

She said the DDA will host a Holiday Shop Local Facebook Page to help downtown businesses get the word out about their holiday promotion. Thompson said businesses can promote themselves on both their own and the DDA pages and can cross-promote from business to business.

Each participating downtown business will receive a poster with the promotion logo for its window or counter.

On Thursday evening, Dec. 8 (with a bad-weather day of Dec. 15), downtown Belleville will host the Jingle Belleville Ladies Night Out for shopping and dining at local businesses.

Thompson said businesses can invite unique vendors to share their space and bring in more/new customers for this special shopping event.

In other business at the 20-minute Nov. 16 meeting, the DDA:

- Was informed that Terra Firma, which was on the agenda to give a presentation on Village Park Ponds was not present and sent no message about missing the meeting it agreed to. It missed the October meeting because of a death in the family, Thompson said;

- Briefly discussed information on Huron River Water Trail kayak lockers. Thompson said the information was given out at the last Trails Partnership meeting. These structures are being placed in three or four sites along the Water Trail so people can lock up their watercraft and personal belongings and go out to eat or stay overnight. She said the DDA had talked about having a structure to store kayaks for security and this was an information item for them. When the DDA learned it cost \$35,000 for a permanent structure, they decided it was more than they wanted to pay. There had been a vendor who was going to rent kayaks and canoes at Horizon Park, but they couldn’t work out who would build the structure, Thompson said. Jeff Vernon said from

(Continued on page 12)

Welcome to Open Arms Pastor Scott!

Pastor Scott studied at Michigan State University, BA; Concordia Seminary, M.Div; and Mid America Nazarene University, BSN. During his college career he served as short term (2-3 month summers) missionary in the United States as well as in the Middle East. He has served as Pastor in both a suburban and urban context in the Kansas City area. He led a team that launched a Christian Hospitality Service in the inner city, providing shelter to kids and their families experiencing homelessness. While working with those families in Kansas City, Scott worked to become a Registered Nurse providing additional care and service to families living in poverty.



Pastor met his fantastic wife Stephanie in 2002 at MSU, where she studied Social Work. They were married on June 13, 2008 at Risen Christ Lutheran Church in Plymouth. They have 2 children, Karis (5) and Amos (3) who are full of energy and love to keep their parents on the go!

Pastor Scott has a strong passion for community service and involvement and would love to see Open Arms continue to grow as we embrace the community of Belleville, and beyond with the love of Jesus.



Open Arms Lutheran Church and Day Care
7865 Belleville Road Belleville, MI 48111

www.openarmscenter.com

Belleville DDA

(continued from page 11)

the audience that they should plan some kayaking events or races before thinking about building a structure to see how many people are interested;

- Learned the chili cook-off winning Soup project planned for 2016 didn't happen because "things changed at the end of the school year and the car show was not in September." Thompson said the DDA plans to participate in the 2017 Soup project with Belleville High School's New Tech program; and
- Heard Kelly Bates note, from the audience, that according to the DDA Maintenance list the aerators in the Village Park retention ponds are to be removed by the DPW in September and they are still in place. Bates is president of the Victoria Commons Homeowners' Association.

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November 23, 2016
7:00pm

Plan to join us to give thanks!

~~~~~



### Youth Advent Dinner and Worship Service

November 30, 2016  
5:30 pm Italian Themed Dinner  
(Offering to support Youth Mission Trips)  
7:00 pm Worship Service



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|                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SUNDAY</b> -- TURKEY DINNER & POT ROAST             |
| <b>MONDAY</b> -- PEPPER STEAK                          |
| <b>TUESDAY</b> -- FATTOUSH SALAD & MEDITERRANEAN PLATE |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> -- ITALIAN NIGHT                      |
| <b>THURSDAY</b> -- POLISH DINNERS                      |
| <b>FRIDAY</b> -- AYCE FISH - \$9.49                    |
| <b>SATURDAY</b> -- CHEF'S CHOICE                       |

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# VBT Plan

(continued from page 3)

is clarified and has been reviewed by the township attorney.

"One of the key parts of the ordinance ... is that they can go to the Board of Zoning Appeals for relief without having to address the courts," Akers said.

Commission chairwoman Carol Thompson, who had experience working on building a dock for the city of Belleville, said a request goes to the MDEQ and to STS Hydro (operator of the dam) and then to FERC for months.

"DEQ has pretty stringent requirements to build a dock," Akers said.

"We didn't want you to be in violation of FERC," Hawley said referring to the "coverage ratio." He said it wasn't boats so much as "how much junk do you have there." He said, "What you put in your coverage ratio, we're not concerned with."

Commissioner Medina Atchinson said there are dangerous structures, with docks

falling into the lake. She asked if the ordinance officer could go out and enforce the ordinance.

"We can hire someone to remove blight and put a lien on the property," Akers said. "The general ordinance puts a clear indication that you are responsible for blight ... We ask people to let us know about blight and we can begin the blight remediation process."

Best said they decided to ask the township to enforce the ordinances already on the books.

"If enacted, this ordinance will do this," Best said. "If this is placed into effect, we'll have the ability to clean up the blighted areas."

Akers said they found a letter in the files and learned DEQ does not allow flat roof boat houses and FERC doesn't either.

"We're affirming DEQ and FERC's roofs," Best said.

"There are flat roofs on Belleville Lake," Commissioner Atchinson pointed out.

"The current structures are grandfathered in," Akers said "They can do routine maintenance ... but could not demolish and replace."

Akers said they want to take their time and get public input.

Best said they will advertise the public hearing in the Independent and on the township web site.

Commissioner Joan Franzoi asked if a draft of the ordinance would be available on line or in print and she was assured it would.

In other business at the two-hour-and-19-

minute meeting, the commission:

- After an hour-long discussion, approved a recommendation to the township board to approve a special land use request for a drive-through restaurant at 10573 Belleville Road, just north of Belle Tire. Applicant is Jason Kishmish. His request for preliminary site plan approval was expected to be voted on at the Dec 14 meeting. He wants to build a three-unit building on the 0.862-acre site with a drive-through restaurant (Jimmy Johns or some other sandwich shop) and two other stores, one possibly a wireless store;

- Heard Patrick Sloan of McKenna Associates planning consultants give a presentation on proposed changes to Article 8 (Environmental Performance) and Article 10 (Landscaping and Screening) of the zoning ordinance, which is being extensively updated. After all the changes have been reviewed the commission will make a recommendation to the township board.

## Community Chorus presents 'Home for the Holidays' concert

On Saturday, Dec. 10, the entire community is invited to enjoy the Belleville Community Chorus' 11th-annual winter concert titled "Home for the Holidays." The performance is at 7 p.m. in the Belleville United Methodist Church, 417 Charles Street.

Under the leadership of director Sue Hiser, accompanist Kevin Shay and a variety of other instrumental accompaniment, the concert will feature songs of the season that you are sure to enjoy.

"Home for the Holidays" will also include numbers by the Belleville Community Children's Chorus and Teen Ensemble.

As always, the concert is free, although donations supporting the chorus are invited and welcomed.

If you are interested in knowing more about or being a part of the Belleville Community Chorus, contact Pete Jones at (734) 731- 0829 or email to [Plrmj@msn.com](mailto:Plrmj@msn.com).

## Holiday activities set for next week end in VBT, City of Belleville

The annual Bake Sale and Craft Show will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 3 at the Van Buren Township Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Road.

Actually, the Senior Center's bake sale will continue until all the goodies are sold and then that part of the event is over. The popular craft show continues until 4 p.m.

Meanwhile, in the City of Belleville, the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce's Winter Fest starts on Friday, Dec. 2, with the popular Animal Magic show at 6 p.m. in the big tent on the Fourth Street Square. At 8 p.m. The Codgers band will play in the Fourth Street tent.

On Saturday, Dec. 3, Animal Magic is back in the tent at noon. There will be a Bounce House for children on Third Street from 1-6 p.m. and a Soup Crawl in the Fourth Street tent from 2 to 4 p.m. Carriage rides will be available on Roys Street from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

A lighted parade bringing Santa to town starts at Belleville High School at 6 p.m. Lighting of the Christmas tree on the front lawn of the museum takes place after the parade, along with children's visits with Santa and fireworks at 8 p.m.

Instead of the skating rink on the Fourth Street Square, this year the Belleville Yacht Club is sponsoring the fireworks.

**Belleville Community Band Christmas Concert**  
**Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**  
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**Belleville First United Methodist Church**  
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**FALL DINE-IN SPECIALS**  
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| <p><b>WEDNESDAY</b><br/> <b>4 pc. Broasted Chicken</b><br/> <b>\$6.49</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>THURSDAY</b><br/> <b>Tacos</b><br/> <b>\$1.50</b></p> | <p><b>FRIDAY</b><br/> <b>All You Can Eat Fish &amp; Chips</b><br/> <b>\$7.99</b></p>                           |
| <p><b>SATURDAY</b><br/> <b>1 lb. Crab Legs</b><br/> <b>\$9.99</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                             |                                                                                                                |

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### HELP WANTED

By Rosemary K. Otzman  
*Independent Editor*

David Brownlee, chairman of the Van Buren Township Environmental Commission, said the commission's recent treatment by VBT leadership is like "a left and a right" to the jaw.

"I find this a little bit disheartening," Brownlee said at the Nov. 16 commission meeting.

Actually, the commission did not formally meet because of a lack of quorum. Two members of the commission had resigned months ago, but VBT Supervisor Linda Combs has not replaced them and all the present members have to be present to meet. Trustee Jeff Jahr, the board's appointee as liaison to the commission was not present and did not run for reelection.

But not having a quorum did not keep the commission from having an hour and a half discussion on several issues.

The most pressing of the issues is the commission being ignored by township leadership when environmental issues are at stake – such as the proposed lakeshore ordinance and the proposed fifth amendment to the landfill host agreement with Waste Management.

Brownlee, who has been on the commission for 30 years, said the commission was involved in the first draft of the Lakeshore Ordinance, but after a public hearing it had to go back to the drawing board.

"A few months ago, I asked Matt how the ordinance is doing and he said they're done and it's going to the planning commission," Brownlee said, referring to Matthew Best,

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### HELP WANTED

## Environmental Commission chairman faults VBT leadership

deputy director of planning and economic development.

"I think the Environmental Commission should have been involved with this before the planning commission," Brownlee said, noting that the Environmental Commission is just a recommending body, but it has experience to share.

"We're getting this tonight as a courtesy," Brownlee said, referring to the presence of Ron Akers, director of planning and economic development, who was present to review the proposed Lakeshore ordinance with commission members.

"Once it came out of committee, it should have come to us. We are the Lake Committee," Brownlee said, referring to the time, years back, when he was on the Lake Committee and it was transformed into the Environmental Commission.

And then the Environmental Commission was not informed of the two and a half years of negotiating on the landfill agreement and not notified of the public meeting to discuss it. He said commission members found out about it by accident.

"I was involved in the original host agreement," Brownlee said.

"Once again, no involvement of this commission ... No plans to include this commission," Brownlee said.

"We have no knowledge whatsoever on this," he said. "I'm bothered by this ... Why are we here? Is it just because it's politically correct?"

He said he asked VBT Supervisor Combs why the commission wasn't involved and she told him it was "basically an economic package."

"I took offense," he said, adding he didn't want to argue with her at the meeting.

"Do we have a disturbing trend here?" Brownlee asked.

After Brownlee stated that the commission's treatment by the township was like two blows in a fight, Commissioner Anthony Gibson said he could add a third.

Gibson said a postcard recently was received by him saying EQ was making minor changes to its operating permits.

"What are those minor changes to a hazardous waste landfill?" he asked. He noted he was involved when it was a private landfill and turned into a toxic waste landfill. He said he sued and protested and that's why he's on the Environmental Commission.

"I'm pointing at the leadership," Brownlee said. "We're not in the 'right to know' category."

"I'm really puzzled with the relationship of leadership with this commission. We don't make policy. We study and make recommendations," he said.

He emphasized that he was not pointing at Director Akers and Deputy Director Best in these comments because the two are "the best thing that's happened here."

"When environmental matters come up, we will be sure to alert you," Akers said.

"I see a big disconnect with the leadership," Brownlee said. "We should have had Waste Management come before us with a

presentation."

Brownlee said Supervisor Combs told him, "Oh, we were going to tell you."

"Oh really?" he said he thought. "When was that going to be?"

"It's almost like a pattern," Brownlee said.

Gibson recalled when Waste Management opened its south cell a few years ago a representative of Woodland Meadows came to the commission and commissioners asked him what about the golf course. Gibson recalls he said they had no intention of removing the golf course. Now they do.

Brownlee said he recalls when the landfill was being sited, he and others put on boots and went out and walked the land, hoping to sight an eagle or an endangered species so they could stop the landfill.

Brownlee said with the new administration taking over, he hopes they will reinstate this commission as part of the process – not after the process.

In other discussion at the Nov. 16 non-meeting, those present:

- Discussed the proposed additions to the Coal Tar Ordinance that includes fines up to \$10,000 for violation. "Now you know it's more than a slap on the hand," Brownlee said, adding it will be voted on at a regular meeting and then sent on to the township attorney and then the township board's work/study session. "We think this is an issue that will eventually go away," he said, noting those putting on sealants will stop using coal tar. He said he is surprised that State Rep. Kristy Pagan of Canton hasn't been able to get Canton to pass an ordinance, since she is trying for statewide legislation. That bill is locked up in committee, he said;

- Heard a presentation on the Lakeshore Management proposal by Akers. Commissioners then asked questions and offered recommendations; and

- Heard Belleville High School student Randall Robinson say he was going to give a Tech Talk on environmental matters in this area in his class at New Tech. Members gave him suggestions and planned to send him information by email.

## More election: Judge Oakley unopposed, Rep. LaVoy bested by Bellino

In the Nov. 8 election incumbent 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley was unopposed for reelection to six more years on the bench. He earned 21,499 votes in the five communities making up the 34<sup>th</sup> District: Belleville, Romulus, Van Buren Township, Huron Township, and Sumpter Township.

There were 551 write-in votes recorded.

In the 17<sup>th</sup> Michigan House district, Joseph Bellino, Jr., R, won with 20,231 votes over incumbent Bill LaVoy, D, 17,150.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> Michigan House race, Kristy Pagan, D, won reelection with 28,262 votes. Her opponent Derek Moss, R, earned 19,295 votes.

In the 12<sup>th</sup> Michigan House district, incumbent Erika Geiss, D, won reelection with 24,716 votes, over Erik Soderquist, R, with 12,112 votes.

## Quest, Inc. is HIRING

**We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes.**

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- **Be available for training. MORC/WCHO/CLS Training is preferred.**

**Send Letter/Resume to:**  
**[recruiter@questserv.org](mailto:recruiter@questserv.org)**  
**or Call (734) 458-8140**





# Minding Your Business

with Bob Mytych



Accurate Dental Denture Inc. at 781 Sumpter Road in the Belle Plaza offers quality caring service at affordable prices for adults and children, with same day denture repair, crowns, partials, soft and flexible dentures, and bonding services, extractions, fillings, and root canals. Right now, they offer a new patient special for \$69.99, which includes an exam, cleaning and x-rays. Accurate Dental welcomes Dr. Jungpark, DMD, and Dr. Q. Ming Jin, DDS to their practice. Call (734) 697-5477. Most insurances are accepted.

\*\*\*

Belleville Rotary is fund raising with evergreen decorations again this year selling holiday wreaths, garland, and centerpieces and are taking orders through Nov. 29. Call (734) 699-7370 or contact any Rotarian.

Visit [www.bellevillerotary.org](http://www.bellevillerotary.org).

\*\*\*

Free computer classes are back at the Belleville Area District Library, beginning Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. with Microsoft Word: Basics and Beyond, a session created to help users in creating documents. A class titled Computer Basics, for learners with little or no experience with computers will be held Dec. 7 at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Registra-

tion is underway and there is a \$5 deposit to register with the deposits returned when you attend the class. This class also takes place Dec. 12 at 10:30 a.m. or 3 p.m. Call (734) 699-3291.

\*\*\*

The Belleville A&W on West Columbia Avenue is offering Coneys for just 99 cents every day through the end of the season. Call (734) 699-1800.

\*\*\*

Don't forget to shop and dine local on Small Business Saturday, Nov. 26. To learn more see [www.buyitinbelleville.com](http://www.buyitinbelleville.com) and visit Facebook/jinglebelleville .

\*\*\*

*Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion. There is no cost to be in this column.*

## Birthdays

Nov. 25 – Ken Erickson  
Dec. 1 – Nick Bevins, Rochelle McArthur

Do you have a birthday in December? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

"There's a difference between a philosophy and a bumper sticker."  
– Charles M. Schulz

## City of Belleville Public Notice

### POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.** at **Great Lakes Towing, 42350 Van Born Road, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan**, a public sale of the following vehicle will be held:

**2001 CHEVROLET, FOUR DOOR, VIN: 1G1NE52J61M666003**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2016 BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**6 MAIN STREET**  
**PUBLISH: NOVEMBER 24, 2016 BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111**  
**BY SHERRI SCHARF, CITY CLERK**

## City of Belleville Public Notice

### POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2016 at 10:00 A.M.** at **J&M Towing, 5760 Belleville Road, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan**, a public sale of the following vehicle will be held:

**1997 MERCURY, STA-WAGON, VIN: 4M2DV1116VDJ59518**

**DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2016 BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**6 MAIN STREET**  
**PUBLISH: NOVEMBER 24, 2016 BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111**  
**BY SHERRI SCHARF, CITY CLERK**

## Upcoming Meetings

• Monday, Nov. 28 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees work/study session to acquaint new board members with the proposed budgets, 4 p.m. Also, rescheduled special meeting of Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education at 7 p.m. at the administration building.

• Tuesday, Nov. 29 – Van Buren Township Board of Trustees special meeting at 7 p.m. includes a public hearing on the 2016 amended budgets and 2017 proposed

## Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

### CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 15, 2016

Supervisor Combs called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor Combs, Treasurer Budd, Clerk Wright, Trustee Miller, Trustee Jahr, Trustee McClanahan. Absent/Excused: Trustee Hart. Others in attendance: Secretary Clair and an audience of thirteen.

Supervisor Combs requested to amend the agenda moving Consent Agenda item #14 [To consider approval of the Elected Officials Benefits Manual] to New Business item #4 and add Approval of the adjustments to the LDFA terms per statute and adopted resolution to the Consent Agenda.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Miller moved, Wright seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. [Special Budget Preparation minutes of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016; Special Work Study Session minutes of October 31, 2016; Special Board Meeting minutes of November 1, 2016; Special Work Study Session minutes of November 3, 2016; Prepaid List of November 4, 2016; Prepaid List of November 10, 2016; Voucher List of November 15, 2016; Approval of a clerical revision to Resolution 2016-03 authorizing an Industrial Facilities Exemption for Mayser Polymer USA, Inc.; Approval of the Amendments to the Tax Abatement (198 & 328) Guidelines and Agreements; Approval of the Commercial Fireworks Display Application by Great Lakes Fireworks LLC; Approval of the re-appointment of Norm DeBuck to the Environmental Commission with a term expiring October 1, 2019; Approval of the Revised Policies and Procedures Manual; Approval of the Revised Salaried Employees Benefits Manual and Approval of the adjustments to the LDFA terms per statute and adopted resolution.]. Motion Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Wayne County Commissioner (11<sup>th</sup> District) Al Haidous presented proclamations to outgoing Board of Trustee members Hart, Jahr, McClanahan and Combs for their service. Supervisor Combs presented a 25 years of service award to Public Safety Administrative Assistant Pam Fleming also thanking her for countless hours coordinating the Good Fellows program; read a letter from a resident praising the Public Safety Department for their assistance, congratulated Assessing Clerk Gina Dorazio who recently received certification as a Michigan Certified Assessing Officer and thanked Public Safety Deputy Director (Fire) Besson for his efforts in achieving a lowered ISO rating that may provide

budgets.

• Monday, Dec. 5 – Van Buren Township work/study session, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Dec. 6 – Van Buren Township regular board meeting, 7 p.m.

• Thursday, Dec. 8 – Keystone Academy School Board work/study session, 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m., holding public hearing on whether to continue two-story requirement for development in downtown Belleville.

a savings to residents on their homeowners insurance rates.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Comments included: Praised the Assessing Department and disapproval of in lieu of health care for elected officials.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve Resolution 2016-18 the Parks and Recreation 2016-2020 Master Plan. Motion Carried.

Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the telecommunication right-of-way permit application for KEPS Technologies Inc., dba ACD.net. Motion Carried. Request is to allow installation of a fiber optic cable.

Wright moved, McClanahan seconded to approve the Special Land Use request for parcel V-125-83-051-99-0003-005 so the property may operate as a drive-thru restaurant. Motion Carried. Request is to allow a Tim Horton's drive thru.

Miller moved, Wright seconded to approve the Elected Official Benefits manual. Roll Call Vote. Yeas: Combs, Budd, Wright and Miller. Nays: Jahr and McClanahan. Absent/Excused: Hart. Motion Carried. Those opposed expressed concern with providing an in lieu of health care benefit.

**REPORTS:** The Budgetary Report of September 2016 was received as presented. Copies are available at the Clerk's Office.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Clerk Wright thanked his staff, the precinct workers, the voters who turned out in record numbers at the November 8, 2016 General Election and those who supported the Public Safety Millage. He also announced the Township Administrative offices will be closed on Thursday November 24 and Friday November 25 in observance of Thanksgiving.

**NON-AGENDA:** Comments included: Questioned if the proposed agreement with Waste Management, recently discussed at a special meeting, would be addressed by the new Board; thanked the Public Millage Campaign committee and the voters who passed the millage noting "when we work together as a team we can accomplish a lot to move the Township forward"; thanked the outgoing Board of Trustee members for their service; welcomed the in-coming Board of Trustee members; invited the public to the swearing in of the Board of Trustees on Friday at 2:00 p.m. in the Board room; stated there are ways to save money in the budget; questioned a procedure regarding audience comment and Board Members thanked the public for the opportunity to serve the community.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Jahr moved, McClanahan seconded to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk  
Linda Combs, Supervisor  
Published: November 24, 2016



# Court Watching

(continued from page 1)

who also has a charge of possession of marijuana, was scheduled for arraignment on the information at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Nov. 9. Judge Chylinski set a disposition conference for her on Nov. 21.

VBT Detective Ken Toney is the officer in charge of the cases.

## Corey Marcal Moore

The probable cause conference for Corey Marcal Moore, 42, on charges of operating while intoxicated-third and driving while license suspended-second last Christmas was adjourned to Nov. 23 at the request of Moore's retained attorney. His personal bond of \$5,000 was continued.

## Allan Michael Stefanski

Allan Michael Stefanski, 25, waived

his preliminary exam on charges of retail fraud-1<sup>st</sup> degree, carrying a concealed weapon, assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer and weapons-felony firearms on Oct. 18 in VBT.

Stefanski was in the Wayne County Jail on \$25,000 cash bond.

Judge Oakley bound him over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice for an arraignment on the information on Nov. 9. His attorney said he has a competency hearing that same day.

Stefanski's final conference was set for Dec. 8 or a jury trial for March 13 before Judge James A. Callahan.

VBT Detective Donovan McCarthy is the officer in charge of the case.

## Michael David Scullen

Michael David Scullen, 41, is charged with larceny (more than \$1,000 but less than \$20,000) and larceny from a motor vehicle on Oct. 11 in VBT. He waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Nov. 16.

On Nov. 16 a plea deal was arranged and a disposition conference set for Nov. 30 before Circuit Court Judge Deborah Thomas.

His court appointed attorney is Matthew Evans. Scullen had been lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$10,000/10% but no longer is lodged. Officer in charge is Det. Toney.

## Steven Lester Gagosian

Judge Oakley held a motions hearing for Steven Lester Gagosian, who was being prosecuted for operating while intoxicated-2<sup>nd</sup>. He was arrested Aug. 16, 2014 and had a blood draw. The VBT police department got the results within nine days, but the warrant was not authorized until Feb. 20, 2016, 409 days after the arrest.

Gagosian's attorney Joseph Awad said the clock started with the arrest and his client was not afforded a speedy trial.

Awad said between the arrest and the institution of charges the patrol car tape was lost, a witness was lost when he moved back to Arizona, and his client's wife and child moved to Florida two weeks ago for a job.

The Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor said under statute the operating while intoxicated charge has a limit of six years and the clock started ticking in February 2016 when the warrant was issued.

The prosecutor cited case law to show the clock starts at the beginning of proceedings.

Gagosian's attorney Awad, however, said he had case law that shows the clock starts at the time of arrest.

"Case law is clear," Awad said. "Michigan has afforded more rights than federal... The arrest triggers formal proceedings."

Judge Oakley said to let the prosecutor decide whether or not or when to charge, "It makes no sense to let the prosecutor decide."

"The fact that it didn't move forward is on the People," Judge Oakley said, noting they could have filed nine days after his arrest.

"I will grant the order," Judge Oakley said, dismissing the case.

## Court Watching:

## Judge Parrott approves plea for man drunk driving a Bobcat on road

By Rosemary K. Oztman  
Independent Editor

Joshua Daniel Burnett, 28, was before 34<sup>th</sup> District Court Judge David Parrott on Nov. 16 for his probable cause conference on a charge of operating while intoxicated - 3<sup>rd</sup>.

His retained attorney James Murray arranged a plea deal, with Burnett pleading guilty to a new misdemeanor charge of operating while intoxicated-2<sup>nd</sup> with a penalty of being on probation for two years. The felony charge was dismissed.

Burnett told Judge Parrott that on Oct. 5 in Sumpter Township he was operating a Bobcat on a dirt road with a blood alcohol count of .17.

In 2009 he was convicted in the 34<sup>th</sup> District Court of driving while intoxicated.

As part of his sentence Burnett will have alcohol screening and assessment. He was ordered not to use drugs or alcohol for two years, and possibly will qualify for Judge Tina Brooks Green's Sobriety Court. His posted bond of \$5,000/10% was continued.

Sumpter Township Officer Balowski was the officer in charge of the case.

## Ryan Edward Adkins

Ryan Edward Adkins, 35, waived his preliminary exam by video from the Wayne County Jail while being held on charges of retail fraud and assaulting a police officer on Nov. 1 in VBT.

Judge Parrott bound him over for an arraignment on the information on Nov. 23 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice.

His court-appointed attorney Elizabeth Young asked that the \$25,000/10% bond be reduced because he has worked for a building company for five years and has lived with his mother and father in Ypsilanti for eight years. She said he is not a danger to the community.

But Judge Parrott said he has eight prior offenses, including one larceny by conversion and one obstructing a police officer. Judge Parrott did not reduce the bond, but turned the case over to pretrial services which could reduce the bond.

VBT Detective Ken Toney is the officer in charge of the case.

## Roderick Stephen Burbank

Roderick Stephanie Burbank, 62, was charged with police officer assault and domestic violence on Oct. 31 in VBT.

His court-appointed attorney asked for an adjournment of Burbank's probable cause conference to Nov. 30 and his preliminary exam until Dec. 7 and Judge Parrott granted the request. Burbank is free after posting \$10,000/10% bond.

VBT Detective Toney is the officer in charge of the case.

## Krassimira Krumova Jeffrey

Krassimira Krumova Jeffrey, 32, was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$40,000/10% on charges of assaulting a police officer and driving while license suspended in the City of Belleville on Sept. 25. She was present by video before Judge Parrott for her probable cause conference.

Her court-appointed attorney Elizabeth Young said Jeffrey will hold her preliminary

(continued on page 19)

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## They're reading the Independent everywhere

Jakleen Ochalek, Peggy Petersen and Kim Chamberlain from Belleville and Van Buren were in South Padre Island, Texas, earlier this year reading the Belleville Independent newspaper.

You, too, are invited to submit a photo of you reading the *Independent* in an exotic location. Please include the name and address of the person you wish to get the free subscription when it is printed. Include your phone number if you want us to let you know just before goes in the paper. A person may use this offer to get a total of two free subscriptions - and no more.

If you aren't going to an exotic location, just send us \$30 for postage to an address inside Michigan or \$35 out of state, and we'll provide mail delivery of the *Independent* so you won't miss a single, exciting issue.



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# Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

*Out of the 574 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police this week, the following are selected for this column.*

**Sunday, Nov. 13:**  
0100 – loitering, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
0514 – assault & battery, Lighthouse  
0544 – shots fired, E. Huron River Dr.  
0822 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1112 – traffic complaint, Morton Taylor/Tyler  
1200 – retail fraud, Rawsonville Rd.  
1507 – assault & battery, Maple Dr.  
1745 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1820 – missing person, Lighthouse Dr.  
1844 – suicide or attempt, Jackson St.  
1944 – unauthorized driving away of auto, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2155 – retail fraud, Belleville  
2205 – assault & battery, Rawsonville Rd.

**Monday, Nov. 14:**  
0100 – agency assist, S. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville  
0119 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.  
0710 – suspicious person, I-94 EB/Haggerty  
0827 – E-911 hang up, Carmell  
0907 – E-911 hang up, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1109 – personal injury accident, Ecorse/Beck  
1305 – E-911 hang up, Village Center Dr.  
1339 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.  
1453 – fraud, Marlowe Ave.  
1828 – disturbance, Tavistock Dr.  
1929 – missing person, Lighthouse  
1939 – assault & battery, Victoria St.  
2047 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2158 – harassment call, E. Huron River Dr.

**Tuesday, Nov. 15:**  
0529 – disorderly conduct, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0628 – assault & battery, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0649 – E-911 hang up, Sumpter Rd.  
0743 – E-911 hang up, Haggerty Rd.  
1034 – fraud, Sumpter Rd.  
1125 – property damage accident, Van Born / Haggerty Rd.  
1159 – malicious destruction of property, Belleville Rd.  
1244 – malicious destruction of property, Hoeft  
1321 – larceny, Meadows Cir.  
1440 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville/Tyler  
1629 – hospice, Elwell Rd.  
1658 – suicide or attempt, Martz Rd.  
1802 – abandoned auto, Huron River Dr. / RR tracks  
1810 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Hull  
1825 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.  
1936 – hospice, Robson Rd.  
1942 – noise complaint, Sylvia Dr.  
2005 – vehicle repossessed, Lighthouse  
2140 – property damage, Haggerty/E. Huron River Dr.  
2149 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
2152 – agency assist, Fox Auto  
2210 – operating while intoxicated, W. Huron River Dr. / Bog Rd.

**Wednesday, Nov. 16:**  
0018 – suspicious vehicle, WCCC  
0123 – vehicle repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
0236 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd.  
0718 – disorderly conduct, Denton Rd.  
0807 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.  
0936 – assault & battery, Kirkridge Park Dr.  
1123 – assault & battery, N. I-94 Service Dr. / Cracker Barrel  
1239 – malicious destruction of property, Haggerty  
1240 – operating while intoxicated, Rawsonville Rd./W. Huron River Dr.  
1247 – vehicle repossession, Winchester St.  
1303 – intimidation threat, Bemis Rd.  
1355 – breaking & entering, Haggerty Rd.  
1629 – retail fraud, Belleville  
1631 – private property accident, Belleville  
1637 – private property incident, Metro Park Party Store  
1639 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1728 – property damage accident, EB Ecorse/Beck  
1842 – fraud, Parkwood Dr.

**Thursday, Nov. 17:**  
0736 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275  
0812 – property damage accident, Ecorse/I-275  
0947 – operating while intoxicated, Haggerty Rd./N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1030 – larceny, Martz Rd.  
1221 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.  
1243 – fight, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1244 – trespassing, W. Huron River Dr.  
1331 – disorderly conduct, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1333 – larceny, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
1406 – assault & battery, S. Ponderosa Trl.  
1632 – juvenile complaint, Bentley/Elwell  
1647 – breaking & entering, Oak Ln.  
1734 – property damage accident, Belleville/I-94  
1751 – property damage accident, N. I-94 Service Dr./Oak Ln.  
1757 – assault & battery, N. Pondereosa Trl.  
1815 – breaking & entering, Oak Ln.  
1919 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.  
2126 – harassment call, Buchanan St.  
2338 – fraud, Belleville

**Friday, Nov. 18:**  
0132 – disturbance, Kirkridge  
0948 – private property incident, Oak Ln.  
1311 – malicious destruction of property, Van Born  
1324 – property damage accident, Rawsonville / Martz  
1430 – retail fraud, Rawsonville  
1516 – disturbance, Denton Rd.  
1554 – private property accident, Village Green Ln.  
1610 – property damage accident, North Service Dr. / Belleville Rd.  
1717 – suicide or attempt, S. Woodbury Dr.  
1825 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1854 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.  
1919 – assault & battery, Savage/Martinsville  
1922 – noise complaint, Locust Dr.  
2205 – retail fraud, Belleville  
2342 – vehicle repossession, S. I-94 Service Dr.

**Saturday, Nov. 19:**  
0336 – assault & battery, Denton Rd.  
1055 – personal injury accident, Birch Dr.  
1518 – fraud, Denton Rd.  
1518 – larceny, Westlake  
1656 – operating while intoxicated, N. I-94 Service Dr.  
1926 – fight, S. I-94 Service Dr.  
2033 – noise complaint, W. Archwood  
2049 – personal injury accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Martz Rd.  
2250 – malicious destruction of property, Pine Dr.  
2305 – malicious destruction of property, Fairbanks St.  
2308 – disturbance, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Also on this week’s log are 199 traffic stops, which 52 of those on the I-94 and I-275 freeways and bypasses, and 39 at Lakewood shopping center.

# Belleville Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Nov. 13:**  
0002 – sexual assault, Brain St.  
0937 – P.B.T. alcohol, Main St.  
1022 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.  
2210 – suspicious situation, Main St.

**Monday, Nov. 14:**  
0104 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.  
0129 – suspicious vehicle, Owen Intermediate School  
0654 – vehicle lockout, Main/Huron River  
0905 – assist fire dept., Henry St.  
0947 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
1031 – property damage, Main St.  
1040 – private property incident, S. Industrial Park Dr.  
1152 – assist fire dept., N. Liberty St.  
1223 – vehicle lockout, Main St.  
1252 – miscellaneous complaint, Main St.  
1605 – traffic complaint, Loza Ln.  
1617 – serve warrant, Loza Ln.  
1634 – abandoned auto, Henry St.  
1733 – narcotics crime, Loza Ln.  
2100 – suspicious vehicle, Main St./Third St.  
2220 – agency assist, Angola St.  
2254 – civil matter, Doane’s Landing  
2346 – domestic assault, Andrew’s Drugs

**Tuesday, Nov. 15:**  
0419 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Clarence St.  
0732 – property damage accident, Main St.  
1008 – assist fire dept., Third St.  
1021 – violation public health code/violation controlled substance act, W. Columbia Ave.  
1047 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.  
1313 – property damage accident, South St./W. Davis St.  
1453 – fight, Light Tower Dr.  
1724 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.  
2019 – personal injury accident, High St./Main St.  
2243 – operating while intoxicated, N. Liberty St. / Main St.

**Wednesday, Nov. 16:**  
0023 – disturbance, Main St.  
0150 – parking complaint, Menlo Park Dr.  
0954 – P.B.T. alcohol, Main St.  
1625 – assist fire dept., S. Liberty St.  
1730 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.

**Thursday, Nov. 17:**  
0958 – P.B.T. alcohol, Main St.  
1223 – property damage accident, Sumpter Rd.  
1241 – suicide or attempt, W. Columbia Ave.  
1404 – intrusion alarm, Wexford Ave.  
1653 – ordinance violation, E. Columbia Ave.  
1805 – personal injury accident, Church St./Roys  
2001 – warrant arrest, Willow/Sumpter

**Friday, Nov. 18:**  
0019 – suspicious situation, Main St.  
0911 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.  
1002 – fraud, Main St.  
1215 – fraud, Robbe St.  
1247 – agency assist, South St.  
1257 – civil matter, Captain Nemo  
1310 – assist fire dept., Sumpter Rd.  
1414 – panic alarm, W. Columbia Ave.  
1521 – intrusion alarm, Robbe St.  
1919 – agency assist, Savage/Martinsville  
2155 – parking complaint, E. Thornhill Court

**Saturday, Nov. 19:**  
0108 – parking complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.  
1006 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.  
1022 – animal complaint, Main St.  
1429 – assist fire dept., N. Edgemont Ave.  
2015 – malicious destruction of property, Henry St.  
2334 – suspicious person, W. Columbia Ave.

Also on this week’s log are 68 traffic stops.

# Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

**Sunday, Nov. 13:**  
0124 – curfew violation, Sumpter/Dunn  
0729 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1052 – disorderly person, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1328 – civil dispute, 5100 bl. Oakville Waltz Rd.  
1357 – larceny, 26000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1414 – malicious destruction of property, 44000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1536 – ordinance violation, 49000 bl. Judd Rd.  
1746 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1823 – civil dispute, Rustic Ln.  
2020 – warrant arrest pick up, Willow/Carleton West  
2146 – fire dept. assist, Willis/Rawsonville  
2213 – well-being check, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.  
2255 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Weimer Dr.  
2340 – suspicious incident, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.

**Monday, Nov. 14:**  
0335 – fire dept. assist, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0723 – animal complaint, Savage/Harris  
0916 – fraud complaint, California  
1053 – suspicious vehicle, 28000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1153 – harassment complaint, 20000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1325 – juvenile complaint, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1429 – subpoena service, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1436 – subpoena service, 19000 bl. Martinsville  
1747 – abandoned vehicle, Karr/Willis  
1805 – subpoena service, 19000 bl. Martinsville  
1820 – subpoena service, 20000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1834 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Martha Ln.  
1838 – alarm, 13000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2159 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.

**Tuesday, Nov. 15:**  
0900 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Karr Rd.  
0921 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1959 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1034 – animal complaint, 45000 bl. Bemis Rd.

1118 – malicious destruction of property, 18000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1220 – mental health commitment, Virginia  
1302 – 911 hang up, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1556 – larceny, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1659 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
2132 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2204 – suspicious incident, 8100 bl. Rawsonville

**Wednesday, Nov. 16:**  
1049 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1459 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1459 – animal complaint, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.  
1525 – assist other agency, Redwood  
1652 – ordinance violation, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.  
1813 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1851 – suspicious vehicle, 24000 bl. Sherwood Rd.  
1942 – malicious destruction of property, 19000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
2203 – suspicious person, 8200 bl. Rawsonville

**Thursday, Nov. 17:**  
1214 – well-being check, 23000 bl. Haggerty Rd.  
1225 – citizen assist, 26000 bl. Karr Rd.  
1243 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1250 – animal complaint, Haggerty/Wear  
1319 – citizen assist, Judd/Martinsville  
1502 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1504 – parking complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
1732 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1857 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Willow Rd.  
2039 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township

**Friday, Nov. 18:**  
0059 – family trouble, California  
0642 – 911 hang up, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0846 – suspicious person, 49000 bl. Wear Rd.  
1003 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.  
1112 – civil dispute, 25000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
1213 – alarm, 44000 bl. Clay Rd.  
1507 – malicious destruction of property, Colorado  
1516 – suspicious person, Sherwood/Willis  
1847 – animal complaint, 18000 bl. Martinsville  
1948 – property damage accident, E. Arizona  
1959 – animal complaint, Wear/Sherwood  
2046 – traffic hazard, 9600 bl. Rawsonville Rd.  
2235 – assist other agency, out of township  
2338 – property damage accident, 25000 bl. Karr  
2359 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Harris Rd.

**Saturday, Nov. 19:**  
0757 – fire dept. assist, 18000 bl. Martinsville Rd.  
0945 – fire dept. assist, 40000 bl. Willis Rd.  
0946 – animal complaint, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.  
1310 – fire dept. assist, 50000 bl. Willow Rd.  
1349 – animal complaint, Wear/Bohn  
1653 – juvenile complaint, 43000 bl. Judd Rd.  
2002 – fire dept. assist, 41000 bl. Bemis Rd.  
2116 – property damage accident, Oakville Waltz / Elwell  
2354 – animal complaint, Wear/Karr

Also on this week’s log are 11 follow-up investigations, 40 miscellaneous details, 152 patrol checks, and 47 traffic stops.

# Wayne County to replace bridge on E. Huron River Dr.

Motorists are advised to avoid E. Huron River Drive between N. Haggerty and S. Haggerty for the next few weeks because Wayne County Road Commission is replacing the deteriorated bridge over the Huron River.

Plans are for the county to start work Monday, Nov. 28, at 6 a.m. The work is expected to take two weeks.

Suggested alternate routes include the Lower Huron Clinton Metropark to Bemis Road or I-94 South Service Drive west from Haggerty to Belleville Road. Closure signs and detour signs are ready to be installed by the county.

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”  
– Benjamin Franklin



# Court Watching

(continued from page 17)

exam on Nov. 23, but she would like a reduction of bond.

Young said Jeffrey is 32 years old and has one misdemeanor on her record from St. Clair Shores. She works for Bayloff Stamped Products and has a 10-year-old child. She is in a custody battle for the child and working with an immigration attorney. She is from Bulgaria and has been here for the last six years, Young said.

Judge Parrott said police report her to be very hostile. He continued the bond but referred her to pretrial services for a bond review.

Officer in charge of the case is Belleville Officer Jeff Wickham.

## Philip Richard Messer

Philip Richard Messer, 46, was before Judge Parrott for his preliminary exam on a charge of criminal sexual conduct – 2<sup>nd</sup> degree (relationship) on Feb. 12 in VBT. He was in the Wayne County Jail on \$25,000 cash bond.

He waived his preliminary exam and was bound over to circuit court for a Nov. 23 arraignment on the information.

His court-appointed attorney David Lankford said this is a February 2016 case and his client has been in custody for 20 days. The testimony against him is from a 13 year old with no corroboration, he said. He pointed out four family members were in the courtroom to support him. He asked for reduced bond.

Judge Parrott said there were two failure to appears for Messer and there is an outstanding warrant in Ypsilanti. The warrant was issued in May, he said.

Judge Parrott said he arraigned Messer and set \$5,000/10% and then found out Messer had already been arraigned by a weekend judge who set the higher bond.

"I think \$10,000/10% would be fair," Judge Parrott said, reducing the bond, which Messer's family then would be able to post.

Lankford said while the address on his driver's license is Romulus, Messer stays in Grass Lake with a friend.

"No minor children," Judge Parrott ordered, adding once Messer posts his bond they will put a tether on him.

Officer in charge of the case is VBT Detective Donovan McCarthy.

## Joshua Kavon Patton

Joshua Kavon Patton, 19, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of home invasion-2<sup>nd</sup> degree in VBT on Aug. 8. He was lodged in the Wayne County Jail on a bond of \$10,000/10%.

Judge Parrott bound him over for a Nov. 23 arraignment on the information at circuit court. Patton was referred to pretrial services for consideration of bond reduction.

His court-appointed attorney David Lankford said his client has psychiatric problems and he stipulated that a competency hearing on Nov. 9 found Patton competent to stand trial.

VBT Detective Toney is the officer in charge of the case.

## William Calvin Hunt

William Calvin Hunt, 51, was ready for his preliminary exam on a charge of first degree retail fraud in VBT on Jan. 3, but the court clerk's computer had a hardware failure and the courtroom had to move from Judge Parrott's court to the courtroom across the hall used by Judge Brian Oakley.

The preliminary exam of another man was half-way complete when the computer crashed and since the exam has to be on the record, it was moved to the other courtroom. Hunt's case was next.

Hunt's court-appointed attorney Steven Menken, VBT officer in charge Ken Toney, and the Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor all agreed to adjourn Hunt's exam for a week because it was almost 1 p.m. and they expected the judge to break shortly for lunch and Menken had to get to a different courthouse for another client.

## Damaged Sumpter Twp. emergency siren replaced & operational

After a lengthy, unexpected delay, the Sumpter Township emergency siren that was struck by a vehicle on July 6 has been replaced and is now fully operational, according to a Nixle alert sent out Thursday.

The siren, located at 17400 Savage Road (just south of Bemis) covers the far northeast corner of Sumpter Township.

Sumpter Township Police Chief Eric Luke said even though Sumpter's 14 sirens are strategically placed throughout the township to overlap each other in terms of audible coverage, those who live/work near the 17400 Savage location were not able to hear an activation at the normal volume they were accustomed to while the siren was being replaced (due to the nearest siren being at Martinsville and Willis Roads).

That issue is now corrected, he said.



## City of Belleville Public Notice



### CITY OF BELLEVILLE

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT TO THE CITY ZONING ORDINANCE

The City of Belleville Planning Commission will conduct a Public Hearing on December 8, 2016, at 7:30 p.m. The hearing will be conducted at the City of Belleville City Hall located at 6 Main Street, City of Belleville, MI 48111.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments from the public on the Planning Commission petition to amend the Zoning Ordinance, Section 3.1.7 (D) Building Height and Placement.

All citizens are welcome to attend and have the right to public comment regarding this issue. Pertinent information is available for review at the Building Department in the City of Belleville City Hall during regular business hours Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting to the Building Department at the above address by 4:00 p.m. December 8, 2016.

Sherri Scharf  
City Clerk

Publish: November 24, 2016

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**BELLEVILLE LAKE**



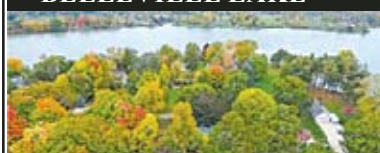
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**BELLEVILLE LAKE**



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**CITY OF BELLEVILLE**



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**242 CHURCH, BELLEVILLE TRIPLE LOT AND CHARACTER-RICH with original details. 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Larger Kitchen, Impressive Formal Dining Room with Large Living Room, Fireplace, Hardwood Floors and Basement. This home includes, Big 3 Car Garage, Rear Deck & Fish Pond. NOW \$229,900.**

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**23260 KARR, SUMPTER IMPRESSIVE AND UPDATED 4 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch with Granite Counter Tops & SS Appliance. Large Living Room with Fireplace, and Hardwood Floors. Formal Dining Room Master Bath with Jetted Tub and Separate Shower. Central air and ceiling fans, Attached Garage, Shed and on 2.2 Acres. \$209,900**

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| AUGUSTA TOWNSHIP                |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| VACANT MCKEAN 11+ ACRES         | \$85,000  |
| RAWSONVILLE & JUDD 78 AC        | \$400,000 |
| TORREY 2.48 ACRES PERC & SURVEY | \$50,000  |
| SUMPTER TOWNSHIP                |           |
| VACANT KARR ROAD 5 ACRES        | \$35,000  |

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| 25817 SUMPTER RD. 97 ACRES     | \$20,000 |
| 26960 SHERWOOD 2.5 ACRES       | \$30,000 |
| 45885 BEMIS PAVED BUIDABLE LOT | \$25,000 |
| 24409 SHERWOOD 1.15 ACRES      | \$30,000 |
| 20743 GRIFFIN COURT 1.4 AC     | \$29,500 |
| ELWELL ACROSS FRM 29300 10AS   | \$59,500 |

|                                            |           |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 42915 WILLIS 4 SPLITS \$30,000 TO \$40,000 |           |
| 49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES                   | \$180,000 |
| BEMIS BY SAVAGE TWO 6 ACRE                 | \$65,000  |
| VINING AND SIBLEY 21+ ACRES                | \$450,000 |
| WILLOW ROAD 1.36 ACRES                     | \$25,000  |
| 26455 KARR 5 ACRES 162X1308                | \$33,000  |

| VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP                                                |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 45109 S SERVICE DRIVE HUGE FRONTAGE 2.29 ACRES. SUPER DEVELOPMENT | \$287,500 |
| PARCEL WITH ALL UTILITIES                                         | \$287,500 |
| 47441 MARTZ ROAD 17+ ACRES                                        | \$176,000 |
| VACANT BOG ROAD .55 ACRES                                         | \$29,750  |

|                                                                |           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| VACANT BOG ROAD 1.36 ACRES                                     | \$30,000  |
| VACANT BOG RD 12.83 ACRES                                      | \$129,000 |
| 6422 GILMORE 82X165 LOT WITH WATER AND SEWER - PRICED RIGHT AT | \$15,000  |
| 739 SAVAGE PAVED ST 1.02 ACRES                                 | \$35,000  |
| 5900 ISLAND DR                                                 | \$31,000  |

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